

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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Masses also streamed at:

<https://mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-margarets-rc-church>

VIRTUAL  WEEK 35



ST MARGARET'S, DUNFERMLINE AND CHURCH OF THE HOLY NAME, OAKLEY

St Margaret's is a Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St Andrew and Edinburgh,
a Charity registered in Scotland SC0008540.

RESPONSE FOR THE SUNDAY MASS AND MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

PSALM	God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	<i>Alleluia, alleluia!</i> Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help

Day	Time	Date	Intention
SAT	5.30pm (SM)	28	Eileen Howard R.I.P.
SUNDAY	9am (SM)	29	Deceased of the Harris, Wojciszak and Dorris Families
	9.30am (HN)		Mary Wilson R.I.P.
	10am (SM)		People of the Parish (online only)
	11am (SM)		John Neeson R.I.P.
MON	10am (SM)	29	David Dobson (Anniversary)
TUES	10am (SM)	1	Maurice McCarron (Anniversary)
	10am (HN)		Holy Souls
WED	10am (SM)	2	Anne Allan R.I.P.
THURS	10am (SM)	3	Jack Farmes (anniv)
	10am (HN)		William Wilson R.I.P.
FRIDAY	10am (SM)	4	John Duffy
	10am (HN)		Funeral Mass for Mary Bell R.I.P.
SAT	10am (SM)	5	Thanksgiving
	5.30pm (SM)		Margaret Dewar R.I.P.
SUNDAY	9am (SM)	6	John McColgan R.I.P.
	9.30am (HN)		Special Intention
	10am (SM)		People of the Parish (online only)
	11am (SM)		John Howat Mitchell R.I.P.

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently, including Mary Bell and Jocelyn Bird (Mother of Jonathan) in Hampshire. May they rest in peace. Mary's Funeral Mass will take place on Friday 4th at Holy Name. Attendance is restricted to 20 people under current regulations. Only attend if asked by the Family.

DEAR FRIENDS

Waiting!

We've done quite a lot of waiting during the last few months: waiting to log onto a Zoom meeting; waiting for restrictions to ease; to get back to work, for the schools to re-open; to see family and friends; to win the lottery and retire go to the cinema; get back to church and sing and participate as we once did; waiting for life to get back to normal. Sometimes the waiting has been difficult; sometimes it has made us appreciate things and people more; sometimes it has been tedious. We've been waiting for a vaccine. The vaccine has seemed to embody all our hopes. Now there seem to be three on the horizon. You can sense that this news has lifted people's spirits. Yes, there will be some way to go but at least there seems to be a way forward, a way out of this situation

As we begin Advent, Isaiah, the great prophet of the Messiah, presents with some stunning images and deep insights. God tears the heavens open to come down to earth and to refashion his people as a potter refashions a lump of clay. The clay cannot mould itself but is shaped by the skilled hands of the potter. Only the intervention of God can prevent humanity from hardening their hearts and straying from God's ways.

The great hope of Advent is that God will draw close to his people in the most spectacular and unexpected of ways, that God reshapes us, reforms us and restores us by becoming one like us. God becomes human so that humanity can share in God's life. God still draws near to us, even in these most difficult times, have we been able to recognise God's presence?

As we begin Advent, we are reminded that we wait, but we wait in hope for the coming of Christ.

With best wishes for the coming week

Fr Chris

FATHER ISSAC'S REFLECTION

WAITING ON THE LORD

Once I went to see my parents after a long absence. My mum lovingly scolded me saying, "Do you know how long we have been waiting for you?" I said, "I understand, mum, but do you know how long I was waiting to be born?" All of us waited to be born, to be nourished and to be loved. Travelers wait for buses, trams, trains and planes. Students wait for the results of their exams. Waiting is part of life. Life is not like instant coffee or tea, there is always more to life than we can fully grasp at any one time. (Vima Dasan)

The season of Advent is a season of preparation and waiting for the coming of Christ. Christ's coming can be understood in three different ways:

His coming in the flesh at Christmas

About two thousand and twenty years ago, Christ came into this world in the flesh through the Blessed Virgin Mary. The coming of Christ at Christmas has opened other opportunities of his coming in human history. After his mission on earth Christ ascended into heaven and promised to come again in glory.

His coming again in glory at the end of time

The end of time could mean the end of our lives or the final coming of Christ of which both are unknown to us except to God alone. Surely, we must wait for the Lord who will come at the moment of our death. Death do not respect any man but lays his icy hands even on kings as their sceptre and crown crumble down. You can't take a newspaper without finding a corner for death in it. Advent therefore, calls us to always be prepared to meet the Lord at our death which can happen at any time or at the parousia.

His coming into our life's situations:

As Christians, we need to be continuously ready not just for the final coming of Christ but for his constant coming every day of lives. If we are alert, we can find the lord popping up in the ordinary activities and possibilities of our lives. As saviour and redeemer, he comes to save us when our righteous deeds become like polluted garments. When we

are weighed down with sin and life's troubles, He alone is the father and redeemer who comes to deliver us from our iniquities.

In truth, Christ makes his visits in a thousand ways. In the book of Revelation His voice sounds thus: "Behold I stand at the door and knock, if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him and he with me" (Rev.3:20) Again, Christ promised his disciples "if anyone loves me, he will keep my words, and my father will love him and we will come to him and make our home with him" (Jn.14:23). When Jesus comes in this case, he comes with glory to use the one in whom he dwells.

We need to continually be on the watch lest he comes unnoticed by us. Eternal vigilance is prize paid for the survival of unpredictable situations. During this season, we are called upon to watch and pray for Christ coming in glory or into the seeming hopeless situation of our lives. To meet the Lord, we must be prepared for life and not just for death for he works in those who wait for him.

If only we have "those eyes that see and those ears that hear" (Is. 64:4), Christmas which advent season prepares us for, can be a pointer to the constant coming of Christ in our lives.

Stay safe,
Remain Blessed,
Happy Sunday to you.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:

'My Jesus, I Believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
Although You have already come,
I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be separated from You.'



Advent Reflection: Week 1



Light a candle (real or battery) and take a moment of calm to reflect on this week's theme of waiting in hope for His coming.

HYMN

1. He comes to us as one unknown, a breath unseen, unheard;
as though within a heart of stone, or shriveled seed in darkness
sown, a pulse of being stirred.
2. He comes when souls in silence lie and thoughts of day depart;
half-seen upon the inward eye, a falling star across the sky of
night within the heart.
3. He comes in truth when faith is grown; believed, obeyed,
adored: the Christ in all the scriptures shown,
as yet unseen, but not unknown, our Savior and our Lord.

Verses text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, alt., © 1984, Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Verses music: REPTON (Dear Lord and Father); Charles H. Parry, 1848–1918.

Prayer

O God, stir up within us the spirit of hope, that leaving behind the night, we may run to greet you day as it draws near and gladly welcome your Christ wherever he reveals himself, the Son who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Gospel according to Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

Reflection

Candles of Advent, flames of the season, lighting the way for Emmanuel. Come, Lord Jesus, come to your people. Our hearts are waiting: all will be well.

Candle of **Hope**, still shining brightly, anchor of strength in the midst of our fear. Jesus, our Savior, Blessed Redeemer, God ever with us, God ever near.

(Carey Landry)

Closing Prayer

Alone with none but thee my God I journey on my way. What need I fear if thou art near O king of night and day? More safe am I within thy hand than if a host did round me stand.

(St Columba)

Stay a-wake, be read-y. You do not know the hour when the
Lord is com-ing. Stay a-wake, be read-y. The Lord is com-ing
soon! Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! The Lord is com-ing soon.

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LIVESTREAMING AND LIVE ACTION

- **ONLINE/ON PHONE**

1. Mass is streamed from St Margaret's Church on a Sunday at 10a.m. To access please go to <https://stmargaretsdunfermline.co.uk/stream/> or at <https://mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-margarets-rc-church>.

The Sunday Mass is recorded as well.

Weekday Mass is also streamed at 10am from St Margaret's.

2. St Joseph's in Clarkston are continuing with their telephone Mass service. The Number to call to hear Fr Stephen's Mass is 0141 473 4869.

- **PUBLIC WORSHIP**

The weekend Mass timetable is as follows:

St Margaret's	Saturday Mass at 10am and 5.30pm*
	Sunday Mass at 9am & 11am*
Holy Name	Sunday Mass at 9.30am*

The doors will open 30 minutes before the start of each service, except the 11a.m Mass on a Sunday at St Margaret's when access will not be possible until 10.45am due to the private livestreaming at 10am.

***Booking for Mass:**

As you arrive each Sunday you will be asked if you want to your booking to roll over for another week. If you do this there is no need to phone on a Thursday. Only phone if would like to make a new booking.

Please try and phone at the specified hours: **Thursday 3-6pm for St Margaret's on 625611 and Thursday 3-5pm for Holy Name on 07711703927 (you can text as well)**

None of us are enjoying the restrictions that we are having to observe at the moment, such as shown to a seat and going a certain way to receive Holy Communion, but they are being implemented so that we can continue to worship in a safe way. Please follow the directions of the stewards, without them giving their time, we would be unable to open our Churches. We owe them a debt of gratitude. Thanks for your help.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Holy Name Church, Oakley: Tuesday & Thursday at 10am

(Do not need to book in advance for these)

The weekday Masses in St Margaret's will not be open to the public until building work is complete. They are streamed each day at 10am via the livestreaming details above.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

The times of the Christmas Masses will be as follows:

St Margaret's	Christmas Eve at 6pm and 8pm
	Christmas Day at 9am and 11am
Holy Name	Christmas Eve at 6pm and 8pm
	Christmas Day at 10am

Booking forms for Masses will be available at Mass this weekend and will also be emailed to those on the email list on Sunday morning.

Please indicate your choice clearly and return ASAP.

Under the current rules, we are allowed a maximum of 50 people each Church though, your exclusive Christmas bubble of 3 households may sit together (if you choose to form one).

Our capacity over the Christmas services will be 200 people at St Margaret's and 150 at Holy Name.

On a normal Christmas we more than 1500! There are other options that will be explained and the Baby Jesus won't forget your face if you don't make it on the day this year!

Please be patient, understanding and flexible.

There will be a daily Mass in St Margaret's during the Christmas Octave at 12 noon (except Sunday when Mass will be at normal times) and Mass in Holy Names on Tuesday & New Year's Day at 10a.m.

Even if you don't get on Christmas Day, you can still come along during Christmas week.



Visit <https://archedinburgh.org/childrens-liturgy-at-home-get-ready-for-sunday-25/> for some great ideas to celebrate and explain this Sunday.

On the first Sunday of the liturgical year, we celebrate the beginning of Advent.

What does Advent mean? It means "coming". We are preparing for the birth of the baby Jesus on Christmas Day, which is now just four weeks away!

CREATE YOUR OWN JESSE TREE

A *Jesse Tree* is a way of preparing for Advent by journeying through the stories on Jesus's family tree. Every day in Advent a different symbol should be added to remember someone in Jesus' family. The final symbol is the star, which symbolises Jesus, and will be placed on the Jesse Tree on Christmas Day. See the above address for instruction booklet.



Children's Christmas Offertory Collection

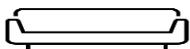


With Christmas approaching our thoughts turn to how we can provide some support for children in need in our local community. The ongoing pandemic situation and restrictions means we cannot have our traditional offertory collection of Christmas gifts on the 3rd Sunday of Advent. This year, if you are able to donate a gift, these can be brought along to any service in St Margaret's and Holy Name Churches between now and the 3rd Sunday of Advent or dropped off at the Presbytery at 4 Viewfield Terrace.

Alternatively, if you would like to donate a gift and are unable to bring it along please contact Carol Bebbington, Children's Liturgy Leader, on 872541 who will arrange a collection.

All gifts will be stored safely and will be delivered to the Dunfermline Children and Families Social Work Team who will distribute them to families most in need in our community. In previous years these have made a huge difference to families at Christmas and I thank you in advance for your generosity.

SVDP Helpers



Can you spare one day a week in the run up to Christmas to help the Saint Vincent de Paul Furniture project at their unit in Dunfermline? You will have to complete a general volunteer form. If you would like to know more, please contact Moira at moirammccrae@gmail.com or call 07939223680

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like a Mass celebrated for a particular intention please get in touch by email, phone or drop a note through the letterbox or, if at a service, pop into the box for offertory collections.

If you wish a Mass card, write your name and address and one will be posted.

Church Stall

Christmas Cards, calendars, diaries etc. are available at St Margaret's

PARISH CHARITIES/GROUPS

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Our SVP conference has been working hard to meet the needs of those in difficulty at this time. If you are able to help, the Bank Details are:

Account Name	SSVP AEO2044
Sort Code	800655
Account Number	00768139

A massive Thank You to all who have donated!



ST. MARGARET'S ONE WORLD GROUP

SUPPORTING MARY'S MEALS, HAITI HELP, EMMS AND PEAS.

The parish One World Group has just donated £640 to Mary's Meals for our support to Geveh Fahncee School in Liberia and £380 to Haiti Help leaving us with a small reserve to meet any disaster appeal. Thank you to all who have contributed at this difficult time for our funds and made this possible. The UK Government is matching Mary's Meals donations until 31st January which Mary's Meals is using to fund other sites in Liberia. Mary's Meals is not just about feeding children but about providing an education since they go to school to get the meals. Our support for Geveh Fahncee school has again been successful resulting in an increase in the school roll. That means however that our monthly donation to Mary's Meals must now also increase at a time when our normal fundraising is limited.

We thank recent donors but if any of you feel able to donate to our work you can do so to our bank account:

Account Name	St Margarets One World Group;
Sort Code	83-33-00
Account Number	10191867

If you prefer to send a cheque please contact our treasurer Maureen Japp on 01383 725967 or by email at maureenjapp@hotmail.co.uk



Men's Group Virtual Meetings via Zoom

On Sunday's at 11am there is a gathering for coffee after Mass and on Thursday evenings starting at 7:30pm there is a social quiz evening. These events are open to all parishioners. To find out how to join in, please email Tom Scott on tom.scott0711@gmail.com.

PARISH FINANCES

Please only donate if you can do so; do not put yourself into any hardship.

WAYS TO DONATE

If you can, please consider Gift Aiding any donation you make.

Forms for this are available online to be completed and handed in to Father or, if donating via the secure link on the Archdiocese page, remember and tick the 'Gift Aid' box.

1. Contactless

If you wish, you can donate by the contactless machine.

A short video explaining the process can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/sanctafamiliamedia/videos/2675471966115234/> You need only choose the amount you wish to donate and hold your card against the machine.

2. The old way

We still take hard cash as well! Just put into the plastic box at the back of the church on your way out after Mass.

3. Standing Order

Standing order forms are available on the parish website or you can set up on online via your bank.

4. Online ad hoc donations

If you have internet banking you can use this too. There are two ways to do this either:

- using the following bank account details:
for St Margaret's: sort code: 80 06 55 Account 00720303.
for Holy Name: sort code 83 33 00 Account number 00176355.

Or

- using the link via the Archdiocese (archedinburgh.org) online secure 'donate' links:

https://donor.secure-operations.com/detailed/donate?charity_id=1086319&type=2&reference=DUNMA&amount=

https://donor.secure-operations.com/detailed/donate?charity_id=1086319&type=2&reference=OAKLE&amount=

OTHER NEWS ROUND-UP

PARISH CATECHISTS: LAUNCH NEW SACRAMENTAL RESOURCES

Are you involved in sacramental preparation (Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation) of children in your parish? You are most welcome to attend an event to launch the new sacramental workbooks and materials. The zoom event takes place on **Saturday 28 November at 2pm**. A link for the event will be sent to you upon registration. To register, please email Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO at SrMirjam.Hugens@staned.org.uk

IN GOD'S IMAGE

The Bishops' Conference of Scotland would like to hear from you if you wish to propose any changes to 'In God's Image', the safeguarding policy manual for the Catholic Church in Scotland. They state: "We want to hear from lay people, as well as from clergy and religious. Above all, we are keen to hear from survivors or victims of abuse so that the church can plan to ensure sensitive responses to all allegations and concerns." **Closing date is 30 November.**

Please go to bcos.org.uk/InGodsImageV2.

ADVENT TALK – ZOOM – SAVE THE DATE

Archbishop Leo will give an Advent talk titled 'Unwrapping Christmas' on Zoom on **Sunday 29 November at 7pm**. The event is open to all. Register at bit.ly/UnwrappingAdvent

DIPLOMA IN CATECHETICS

We invite YOU to deepen your Catholic Faith and help spread the Good News of Jesus Christ with our **Diploma in Catechetics**.

It is easy to take part. Lectures will be delivered each Thursday evening in a 45 min Zoom session - so you can learn in the comfort of your own home! To register visit bit.ly/CatecheticsDiploma. Or for more info or if you need financial support please email: sranna.marie@staned.org.uk

COVID-19

Updates for our Archdiocese can be read at the coronavirus updates page on www.archedinburgh.org

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY

The first Sunday in Advent is the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

Please keep the people of Palestine in your prayers, and find out more about the current situation in the Holy Land from sources such as www.sabeel-kairos.org.uk

MARY'S MEALS DOUBLE THE LOVE

Donations made to Mary's Meals between now and 31 January 2021 will be doubled by the UK Government up to £2 million. You can donate through the Mary's Meals website.

PRO-LIFE ADVENT ROSARY

Join people across the Archdiocese on Zoom to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all Pro-Life intentions. Begins this Monday at 7:00pm and each following Monday in Advent. To register, search 'Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh' on Eventbrite.

REFLECTION
REFLECTION

COME TO SET US FREE

Bernadette Farrell

Refrain

Come to set us free, come to make us your own.

Come to show the way to your peo-ple, your cho - sen.

O - pen our lives to the light of your prom - ise.

Come to our hearts with heal-ing, come to our minds with pow-er,

come to us and bring us your life.

Verses

1. You are light which shines in
2. You are hope which brings us
3. You are prom - ise of sal-

1. dark-ness, Morn-ing Star which nev-er sets. O-pen our eyes which
2. cour-age, you are strength which nev-er fails. O-pen our minds to
3. va - tion, you are God in hu-man form. Bring to our world of

to Refrain

1. on - ly dim - ly see the truth which sets us free.
2. ways we do not know, but where your Spir-it grows.
3. emp - ti-ness and fear the Word we long to hear.

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